REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-12 are pending. The Examiner is thanked for finding that the applicant has claimed at least two different patentably distinct inventions (i.e., no one of which is made "obvious" in view of the others whether taken singly or in combination under 35 U.S.C. §103). In response to that restriction requirement applicant hereby elects for further substantive examination in the present application Invention Group I comprising claims 1-6.

This election is made with traverse. Other, non-elected, claims are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer vis-à-vis a subsequent timely filed continuing/divisional application. An examination on the merits is awaited. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute non-elected subject matter in a further patent application.

Applicants earnestly solicit an early and favorable examination on the merits. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if any further information is required.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

William G. Niessen Reg. No. 29,683

WGN:ap

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor

Arlington, VA 22203-1808

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100